



**Murrindindi**  
Shire Council

# Scheduled Meeting of Council

## Minutes

Wednesday 26 October 2022  
Virtual Meeting via Zoom  
6:00 PM

## ORDER OF BUSINESS

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## 1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND COUNCILLORS' PLEDGE

### 1.1 Acknowledgement of Country

The meeting was opened with the Mayor reading the following on behalf of the Murrindindi Shire Council:

“Murrindindi Shire Council is proud to acknowledge the Taungurung and Wurundjeri people as the traditional custodians of the land we now call Murrindindi Shire.

We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging, who are the keepers of history, traditions, knowledge and culture of this land.”

### 1.2 Councillors' Pledge

“The Councillors, democratically elected to represent our community as the Murrindindi Shire Council, are committed to working together in the best interests of the people who live in our municipality, those who conduct business here and those who visit.”

## 2 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

### 2.1 Privacy Note

This public meeting is being streamed live via our Facebook page and made available for public access on our website along with the official Minutes of this meeting.

### 2.2 Apologies and Request for Planned Leave

That Council accept the apologies of Cr K Haslam.

#### **Present:**

Councillors S Carpenter (Chair), D Gallagher, I Gerencser, E Lording, S McAulay, J Walsh

#### **In attendance:**

Chief Executive Officer: Livia Bonazzi

Director Corporate and Shared Services: Michael Chesworth

Interim Director Community Engagement: Kate Siebert

Director Assets and Development: Vito Albicini

Manager Governance and Risk: Tara Carter

### 2.3 Disclosure of Interest or Conflict of Interest

Cr S Carpenter declared a material conflict of interest in Agenda item 5.2 being the Grants and Contributions Program - October Allocations given that she is a Board Member of the Yea Rotary which is an applicant under the grant program.

## 2.4 Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of the Scheduled Meeting of Council held on 28 September 2022.

### **RESOLUTION**

**Cr I Gerencser / Cr J Walsh**

**That Council confirm the minutes of the 28 September 2022 Scheduled Meeting of Council.**

**CARRIED**

## 2.5 Petitions

Council has received a petition titled “Stop the Sale of Parkland in Eildon” from Mr Cleveland Aitkin, a resident of Eildon. The Petition is signed by 150 people, and the petition was confirmed as meeting the requirements of the Governance Rules.

The sale of land within the Eildon township was proposed as part of the Eildon Reserves Redevelopment project and Council has recently conducted a community consultation process for this project. It is appropriate that this petition is considered as part of that consultation process.

If Council were to pursue the proposal for the sale of land following the assessment of the consultation feedback, then a further statutory process will need to occur, including further opportunity for public comment and engagement specific to the topic of the sale of land.

### **RESOLUTION**

**Cr S McAulay / Cr E Lording**

**That Council:**

- 1. receive the petition**
- 2. refer the petition to be considered as part of the Redevelopment of the Eildon Reserves consultation process, the outcomes of which will be presented to Council at a future date.**

**CARRIED**

## 2.6 Community Recognition

Cr S Carpenter, Mayor read the following statement:

On behalf of my fellow Councillors, I wish to formally recognize the terrific support that has been given by many volunteers during the recent floods in our shire.

The SES as the lead agency in times of flood has coordinated a great response to the events that have unfolded in recent weeks.

Our local agencies have worked tirelessly to rescue stranded families, clear roads, deliver food supplies, fill and supply sandbags, run pumps, and inform the community of the situation we were in.

Our local SES units have been capably supported by neighboring units, local and nearby CFA brigades and other agencies, service clubs and many individual community members who have banded together to give support where they can to our residents, businesses, and farming communities.

I will not mention individual people or agencies, but we all know that there are members of our community that have given extraordinary time and effort in the last couple of weeks. I give my heartfelt thanks to all that have contributed to supporting us and continue to do so.

## **2.7 Matters Deferred from Previous Meeting**

Nil.

## **2.8 Urgent Business**

Nil.

## **3 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

### **3.1 Open Forum**

Nil.

### **3.2 Questions of Council**

Nil.

## 4 REPORTS - ASSETS AND DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

### 4.1 Capital Works Report Quarterly Report - September 2022

Attachment(s)	Attachment 1 - Capital Works Program Review - September 2022 - Program Financials [4.1.1 - 6 pages] Attachment 2 - Capital Works Program Review - September 2022 - Program Comments [4.1.2 - 8 pages]
Presenter	V Albicini, Director Assets & Development
Approved by	Director Assets & Development
Purpose	For noting

#### Executive Summary

This report provides an update on the 2022/23 Capital Works Program (CWP) for the first quarter of the financial year, from 1 July to 30 September 2022.

#### **RESOLUTION**

**Cr I Gerencser / Cr S McAulay**  
That Council note the quarterly report ending 30 September 2022 on the delivery of the Annual Capital Works Program.

**CARRIED**

## 4.2 Public Open Space Contributions Policy

Attachment(s)	Attachment 1 - DRAFT - Public Open Space Contributions Policy [4.2.1 - 5 pages]
Presenter	V Albicini, Director Assets & Development
Approved by	Director Assets & Development
Purpose	For decision

### Executive Summary

This report seeks Council's endorsement of the Draft Public Open Space Contributions Policy for the purpose of public consultation prior to its formal adoption by Council at a subsequent Council Meeting.

The Policy provides guidance on the amount and allocation of any monetary funds collected from developers for public open space following the subdivision of land, or if the provision of land is appropriate as a contribution in place of monies.

Once the Policy is formally adopted by Council it is proposed to incorporate the Policy into the Murrindindi Planning Scheme.

### **RESOLUTION**

**Cr S McAulay / Cr D Gallagher**

**That Council release the Draft Public Open Space Contributions Policy for public consultation for a period of one (1) month to seek feedback from the community prior to its formal adoption by Council.**

**CARRIED**

## 5 REPORTS - COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT DIRECTORATE

### 5.1 Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-25 Year 1 update

Attachment(s)	Attachment 1 - MPHWP - Year 1 report [5.1.1 - 16 pages]
Presenter	K Siebert, Interim Director Community Engagement
Approved by	Interim Director Community Engagement
Purpose	For noting

#### Executive Summary

This report provides Council with an update on the implementation of the *Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-25* and the year one progress report.

#### RECOMMENDATION

**Cr D Gallagher / Cr J Walsh**

**That Council note the year one report of the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-25.**

**CARRIED**

Cr S Carpenter left the meeting at 6:26pm.

Cr D Gallagher took the position of Chairperson.

### 5.2 Grants and Contributions Program - October Allocations

Attachment(s)	Nil
Presenter	K Siebert, Interim Director Community Engagement
Approved by	Interim Director Community Engagement
Purpose	For decision

#### Executive Summary

This purpose of this report is to present Council with the September 2022 Grants and Contributions Program applications and variations for noting and endorsement.

## MOTION

Cr J Walsh / Cr I Gerencser

That Council:

1. Note the following allocations made by the Grants and Contributions Assessment Panel under delegation:

Application	Amount
CPE-22/23-011 – Flowerdale Community House – Community Christmas Lunch	\$700
FR-22/23-010 – Rotary Club of Yea – Race Night	\$595

2. endorse the following allocations recommended by the Grants and Contributions Assessment Panel:

Application	Amount
CPE-22/23-010 – Whittlesea and Kinglake Anglican Church	\$3,500
CS-22/23-003 – Beck Webber – Para Equestrian	\$1,000

3. not endorse the following allocations recommended by the Grants and Contributions Assessment Panel:

Application	Amount
ES-21/22-007- Blackburn Cycling Club – 2022 Bayside Skoda Eildon Junior Tour	\$5,000

## AMENDMENT

Cr S McAulay / Cr D Gallagher

That the motion be amended to remove the application by Blackburn Cycling Club from the motion and to consider it separately.

## POINT OF ORDER

Cr J Walsh

That Cr S McAulay is debating the matter of the Blackburn Cycling Club's application and not the need for an amendment.

**ACCEPTED BY THE CHAIR**

The amendment was put to the vote.

**LOST**

The original motion was put to the vote.

## **RESOLUTION**

**Cr J Walsh / Cr I Gerencser**

**That Council:**

- Note the following allocations made by the Grants and Contributions Assessment Panel under delegation:**

<b>Application</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>CPE-22/23-011 – Flowerdale Community House – Community Christmas Lunch</b>	<b>\$700</b>
<b>FR-22/23-010 – Rotary Club of Yea – Race Night</b>	<b>\$595</b>

- endorse the following allocations recommended by the Grants and Contributions Assessment Panel:**

<b>Application</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>CPE-22/23-010 – Whittlesea and Kinglake Anglican Church</b>	<b>\$3,500</b>
<b>CS-22/23-003 – Beck Webber – Para Equestrian</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>

- not endorse the following allocation recommended by the Grants and Contributions Assessment Panel:**

<b>Application</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>ES-21/22-007- Blackburn Cycling Club – 2022 Bayside Skoda Eildon Junior Tour</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>

**CARRIED**

Cr S Carpenter returned to the meeting at 6.47 pm and resumed the position of Chairperson.

## 6 REPORTS - CORPORATE & SHARED SERVICES DIRECTORATE

### 6.1 Finance Quarterly Report - September 2022

Attachment(s)	Attachment 1 - Management Statements - September 2022 [6.1.1 - 4 pages]
Presenter	M Chesworth, Director Corporate & Shared Services
Approved by	Director Corporate & Shared Services
Purpose	For decision

#### Executive Summary

This report provides the quarterly financial report for the period ending 30 September 2022. It includes a reconciliation of the carry forward and other quarterly adjustments to the 2022/23 Annual Budget. The Annual Revised Budget shows an operating surplus for the year of \$7.64 million, which is an increase of \$3.17 million on the Original Adopted Budget and primarily reflects a significant increase in capital grants.

#### **RESOLUTION**

**Cr J Walsh / Cr E Lording  
That Council**

- 1. endorse the revised 2022/23 Annual Budget incorporating the carry forward budgets from the 2021/22 financial year and other adjustments for the period ending 30 September 2022, and**
- 2. receive the Quarterly Financial Report to 30 September 2022.**

**CARRIED**

### 6.2 Annual Report 2021/22

Attachment(s)	Attachment 1 - Annual Report 2021/22 [6.2.1 - 118 pages]
Presenter	Cr S Carpenter, Mayor
Approved by	Director Corporate & Shared Services
Purpose	For decision

#### Executive Summary

This report presents the Murrindindi Shire Council Annual Report for the period 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 for Council's endorsement.

The presentation of the Annual Report is an important milestone in recognising the significant achievements of Council in 2021/22, including the objectives and activities of the Council Plan 2021-2025 and the 2021/22 Annual Budget.

Cr S Carpenter, Mayor presented the Annual Report 2021/22 to Council for endorsement.

## **RESOLUTION**

**Cr D Gallagher / Cr E Lording**

**That Council endorse the Murrindindi Shire Council Annual Report 2021/22 as contained in Attachment 6.2.1.**

**CARRIED**

## **6.3 Procurement Policy - Local Government Act 2020**

Attachment(s)	Attachment 1 - Policy - Procurement - 2022-2026 [6.3.1 - 22 pages]
Presenter	T Carter, Manager Governance & Risk
Approved by	Director Corporate & Shared Services
Purpose	For decision

### **Executive Summary**

Council adopted the Procurement Policy in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020 (the Act)* in September 2021 and committed to review the Policy again by 31 October 2022 to consider its implementation and make any necessary adjustments to maximise its effectiveness. Minor adjustments are proposed, either to incorporate legislative changes or changes to other Council policies since the Procurement policy was adopted, or changes to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of procurement processes.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**Cr J Walsh / Cr I Gerencser**

**That Council adopt the revised Procurement Policy 2022-2026 as contained in Attachment 6.3.1.**

**CARRIED**

## **7 COUNCILLOR AND CEO REPORTS**

### **7.1 Notices of Motions**

Nil.

### **7.2 Cr Karine Haslam**

Nil to report.

### **7.3 Cr Ilona Gerencser**

Nil to report.

### **7.4 Cr Eric Lording**

Nil to report.

### **7.5 Cr John Walsh**

With respect to my Portfolio of Governance and Corporate Services, we have already addressed the major issues of the Annual Report, Procurement Policy and Quarterly Financial Report which included the revised budget. Clearly the flood will require staff to double their efforts to make major changes to the budget while still having to do the ground work for next financial year's action plans and budget.

Clearly within the Ward, flood response has dominated the last two weeks and recovery will continue to be the main focus in coming months. I have often expressed my admiration of the ingenuity and resilience of the communities within the Murrindindi shire. Recent events have again brought those traits to the fore.

Some examples:

Across the board SES, CFA and Council Staff have been magnificent. Farmers organizing themselves into stock rescue teams and working night and day along the Goulburn in swirling flood waters to get stock to higher ground. Molesworth township taking on the job of protecting their town to reduce the load on emergency services because to quote: "there are others who need the help more than we do". My fellow presenters on UGFM coming in for extra and extended shifts so that up-to-date information on river rises and road closures could keep the community informed. Acheron CFA retrieving leaking gas bottles that had been torn from their mountings in the Twin Rivers caravan park. Also a special mention to Peter Weeks for his contributions through SES and UGFM.

As we move through recovery and rebuild, we'll be asking our communities to maintain their resilience and patience as we rebuild roads and bridges while continuing normal operations as best we can. At the same time, we must recognise that other shires throughout the State are also having to rebuild. For Councillors, our role is to advocate to all relevant agencies to make sure we have a fair share of the available support.

Given the recent demonstrations of our communities' pride in, and commitment to, their towns and infrastructure, I believe there are opportunities for Council to work more closely with them as we rebuild.

A couple of lighter but still important Ward matters. Early in the month, after 3 attempts interrupted by COVID, and as a boost to the community, Artz@Yarck presented a very successful performance of Hell Ship by Michael Veitch. Contributing to the success was a COVID relief grant from Council that enabled extensive advertising of the show. Then last Sunday, the Home Creek Spring Creek Landcare Group celebrated their 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and 30 years of contributing to environmental and land restoration. I can't think of a property from Fawcett to Cathkin to Gobur that has not benefited from their efforts. Again, thanks go to the Shire for contributing to the event.

## 7.6 Cr Sandice McAulay

### Emergency Services

With the recent Flooding events across the Shire Council's Emergency Management Plan has been activated and Council's Emergency Governance structure has been in place since the start of the event last week. Council resources have been focusing on Emergency Response and Relief Services.

### Operations

- Operations crew have been busy responding to the recent flood event that involved cleaning block drains, clearing fallen trees, flooding mitigation support, road closures, emergency repairs, road / bridge inspections, sandbagging as well as supporting the emergency services.
- Approximately 150 cubic meters of sand was used and over 15,000 sandbags created to assist.
- Cleansing services maintained however noncritical services were put on hold such as grass cutting.
- Council received 250 work requests in 10 days. We usually receive about 140-150 per month. This is an increase of around 150%.

### **Known Impact Summary as of yesterday, 25 October 2022**

#### Roads

Secondary impact assessments are being undertaken across the Murrindindi shire. This process has been supported by City of Whittlesea and Yarra Ranges Council. Prioritisation of works will be to reopen currently closed roads and ensuring that they remain open and safe.

The following roads and bridges have been noted as impacted to date. This may change as impact assessments are carried out across the Shire:

- Whanregarwen Road
- King Parrot Creek Road
- Break O'Day Road Flowerdale to Glenburn
- Murrindindi Road
- Watton Place / Miller Street, Yea
- Ghin Ghin Road
- Killingworth Road, Yea
- Back Eildon Road

- Hobans / Breakaway Road, Alexandra – water has receded – assessment will occur as a priority, when it is safe to do so.
- Dropmore Road, Molesworth
- Snobs Creek Road.

### Bridges

Bridge Assessments began on Monday 24 October 2022, where safe to do so.

- Forest Road bridge, Flowerdale – Temporary bridge in place to allow for local light vehicle access.
- Nash's Road bridge, Yea - Temporary bridge in place to allow for local light vehicle access.
- Breakaway Bridge, Acheron – Catastrophic Damage. Comprehensive Bridge assessment to be undertaken at earliest opportunity as water levels allow, initial impact assessment has been conducted.
- Native Dog Road, Molesworth – To be assessed

The aim is to temporary repair Council Assets and Infrastructure so that it can safely be used until permanently repaired or reconstructed.

### Ongoing

Council will endeavour to ensure that the Capital Works Program commences when able, however it is important to note that the delivery of the program is going to be significantly impacted by the recent floods. Furthermore, it is anticipated that there will be limited availability of contractors, limited supply of construction materials, as well as supply chain issues as they will all be diverted to carryout flood related works. This wet period of weather is also impacting on the program.

### Community

This week my thoughts have been with those most affected by the flooding across our region. It is at times like this that we realise how special our community is that we live in, and how important the leadership provided by our State Emergency Services (SES) with support from the various CFA memberships, Victoria Police and Forest Fire Management Victoria are to responding to emergencies. Once again local communities have stepped up and assisted with filling and then placing sandbags in much needed locations across the shire as well as many other acts of kindness and support. We are reminded yet again how important volunteering is to our communities.

I would also like to acknowledge the Marysville Lions successful Music Weekend over the 14 to 16 October. After postponing the event numerous times over the last two years due to COVID-19, the committee was finally able to host the sixth Marysville Music weekend. This event is always a highlight in my calendar, and I was so excited to be able to attend the weekend event. Of special note on the Sunday, participants donated \$600 to the flood relief tin located at the event. The Marysville Lions at their monthly meeting last week moved to donate a further \$10,000 to the flood disaster recovery. I reiterate – what a great community we live in!

Thank you.

## 7.7 Cr Damien Gallagher

I'd like to report briefly upon the challenging time ahead, the threats to wellbeing, and our confronting reality.

Foremost, our thoughts go to the many families and businesses who are impacted by the events of the past fortnight.

It's sobering to consider that although the waters have begun to subside, the recovery for our region will likely be felt for the next 1 to 3 years and beyond.

We know from the research and from recent emergencies that there are several phases of our journey ahead:

- The continued threat of possible further flooding, requiring our collective response,
- We will transition from response to a focus on restoration, repair and recovery, and
- Learning from our recent experience, to mitigate risks and prepare for future events, in time, we will have the space to reflect and further contemplate our exposure to the risks of more common, more intensive emergency events.

As we embark on the journey, it's important firstly to combat a few myths and assumptions by heeding the lessons of the past. For example:

- ✗ Affected people need someone to make things better.
- ✓ The reality is that empowering people to manage their own recovery is most effective.
  
- ✗ People need shielding from reality.
- ✓ Contemporary advice is to be authentic and honest. The reality of the situation is ever-present for those directly affected, so offer to talk about it rather than actively ignoring it.
  
- ✗ People should be grateful for any support.
- ✓ We need to trust that people know what they need, and when. Restoration of dignity and self-sufficiency is a priority. We must be conscious to ensure support is available for people to seek in their own time.

### The Immediate Response to the October 2022 Floods

We've rightly been inspired by individual acts of heroism of late, and many of us are brimming with pride at the acts of kindness from across our community. The recent flood emergency has been faced head-on by an outpouring of good will and now we bask in a shared sense of having overcome a thoroughly challenging experience.

But reliance upon individual acts of heroism is unsustainable.

Following the rescues and evacuations, the sandbagging, and immediate community safety concerns:

- Council's Municipal Emergency Management Plan is being enacted;
- Council officers are working with Incident, Regional and State Emergency Managers;
- Council business continuity is being assured;
- The Mayor and CEO are advocating to state and federal authorities for our immediate needs, including some great initiative in seeking support from neighbouring councils with capacity;
- Temporary accommodation is being sought for the displaced; and

- Relief centres are prepared and on stand-by.

Council's Emergency Management collective is to be acknowledged and congratulated for its response.

### The Recovery

To this point, the environment has been unpredictable and rapidly changing, and those conditions will remain as we transition to recovery, as we look to rebuild, and as we seek social, economic, and environmental restoration.

The first step is understanding the emergency context. History reveals that even relatively low recent exposure can have profound compounding effects, manifesting in long-term consequences for people and for assets.

Recovery is every bit a partnership: Between Council, community, State and Federal Government departments and agencies. It's incumbent upon us to continue to convey the story of our circumstances to those with the capacity to assist.

The key message is that there are challenging times ahead. There will be delays and frustration as we compete for resources with municipalities across the state. There will be times of debilitating red tape and personal exhaustion. There will be unprecedented challenges, and there will be periods of heightened stress and anxiety. History suggests that following the emergency, there may likely be an increase in the instances of family violence.

Council is continuing to share through its regular channels, valuable resources to support affected farmers, residents, businesses, and visitors. To discuss any needs, continue to reach out to the Customer Service Team at 5772 0333.

Murrindindi Shire's Community vision speaks to vibrancy and resilience. The vision welcomes the participation of us all and welcomes visitors and their contributions as we recover. We have before us a demanding time, but a time during which we have the opportunity to recover effectively and continue to realise our community's vision.

### Reference

AUSTRALIAN DISASTER RESILIENCE HANDBOOK COLLECTION: Community Recovery (third edition)

© Commonwealth of Australia 2018

Edited and published by the Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience, on behalf of the Australian Government Department of Home Affairs.

<https://knowledge.aidr.org.au/media/5634/community-recovery-handbook.pdf>

It has been my great honour to serve Council and our community in my role as Deputy Mayor these past 12 months. I sincerely thank Cr. Carpenter for her leadership as Mayor.

## 7.8 Cr Sue Carpenter - Mayoral Report

As I write this it is still raining, but fortunately, not heavily.

Parts of our Shire have experienced devastating flooding and I have able to express my gratitude to the many volunteers tonight in community recognition earlier tonight.

My role as Mayor in the last few weeks has consisted of advocating for our Shire and our communities.

I have spoken with the following Ministers:

- Melissa Horne – State Minister for Local Government.
- Danny Pearson – State Minister for Families, Fairness and Housing, and the Assistant Treasurer.
- Harriet Shing – State Minister for Water and Regional Development.
- Kristy McBain – Federal Minister for Regional Development and Local Government and the Secretary from the Department of Premier and Cabinet.

The Council Executive have been terrific with daily reports on the impact of flooding and what is being done by various agencies and Council staff.

The community meetings held in Alexandra and Yea were informative with most agencies available to inform us and answer questions from the community. I was able to get a feeling of how concerned our communities were about the challenges they were facing.

I took the opportunity to inform all the Ministers of the many issues and challenges we are dealing with as a result of the flooding.

I was particularly pleased that Minister Shing came to Alexander and had a productive discussion with our CEO, myself and Cr Walsh who could give the perspective from the farming community.

As we hopefully enter the recovery phase I will continue to speak up for assistance for our Shire.

In conclusion I wish to thank our CEO for so swiftly seeking support from the options available from neighboring shires. As a result we have been able to make assessments on infrastructure and support our council staff who have put in many extra hours to deal with the issues we have been facing

## 7.9 Chief Executive Officer Report

- The recent severe flooding event is recognised as the largest natural disaster our Shire has experienced since the 2009 bushfires. Council enacted its municipal emergency management procedures to deal with this flooding emergency across most of our towns. This included providing immediate and ongoing assistance to emergency management agencies to combat the emergency, and providing relief as necessary to impacted residents, including access to emergency accommodation, and opening our Emergency Relief Centre in Yea.
- We know there have been significant flooding impacts directly on residences, farms and livestock, and businesses across the Shire and indirectly through areas being cut-off and isolated by flood waters for several days. Three caravan parks in Yea, Molesworth and Acheron have been severely impacted.
- We have also sustained significant damage to public infrastructure, notably our road and bridge network and some environmental and recreational assets/facilities (eg like the Yea wetlands reserve). Our priority has been to ensure public safety as far as possible and

this has included many necessary road closures to minimise risks to the public associated with flood waters, debris and damaged infrastructure.

- We have received welcome assistance from our neighbouring councils, most notably Whittlesea and Yarra Ranges who have shared resources across a range of council functions – I extend my heartfelt appreciation to our colleagues in those councils for their generous offers of help.
- Led by the SES and with the support of many volunteers, our staff have helped fill over 15,000 sandbags across Yea, Alexandra and Thornton, this assisted the SES in building a temporary levee in Thornton to protect against potential of flooding in the township. I commend Council staff for going above the call of duty and joining the community efforts at this critical time.
- Council sought and received state support to enable the removal of flood debris and damaged items from private properties and our RRCs have been opened for extended hours to facilitate the clean-up process. Waste disposal is at no charge for our flood-impacted citizens.
- We have deployed engineers to undertake urgent impact assessments of the damaged public infrastructure across the Shire, when safe to do so, and to quickly arrange temporary reinstatements to restore access wherever possible. Council is in the process of conducting assessments of the economic, social and environmental impacts as well as for built assets. This vital information will assist our claim for Federal Government Disaster Financial Assistance to rebuild what is needed
- I am pleased to advise that, under our Business Continuity Plan, Council's day to day services to the community have been largely maintained over this period, noting our libraries have opened for extended hours to provide opportunities for respite for community members. Officers have had to reprioritise some resources, particularly our operations and maintenance teams to focus on the flooded areas and making them safe.
- We have endeavoured to keep our community up to date with regular communications about the emergency and the assistance available through dedicated pages on our website, social media posts and through two public meetings held recently in Alexandra and Yea.
- As the acute stage of the flooding event gradually subside, we are shifting our focus to the longer term recovery from this event. We will soon be establishing a municipal recovery plan to support the community in its recovery efforts. It is possible that as an organisation, we may need to adjust our priorities for the near future to ensure our resources are best allocated to support this recovery effort, and we will have more to say about this in due course.
- Council has stepped up our advocacy efforts through this recent emergency, including to ensure Murrindindi Shire is included in the list of eligible LGAs for all Federal and State relief support and financial assistance for impacted households, individuals, community groups and businesses including primary producers. We will continue to advocate to ensure our shire receives a fair share of funding and recovery support, in light of the severe economic losses experienced by our community as a result of road damage, lost trade, hundreds of km of fences destroyed, and expected livestock losses.

## 8 RECORD OF COUNCIL BRIEFING SESSIONS

### Purpose

For noting.

### Executive Summary

This report presents the records of Council Briefing Sessions for 21 September 2022 to 19 October 2022, for Council to note.

The following summary details are for 21 September 2022 to 19 October 2022:

Meeting Name/Type		Briefing Session		
Meeting Date:		21 September 2022		
Matters Discussed:		1. AGL Agreement - in lieu of Rates 2. Grants and Contributions Program - September Allocations 3. Road Asset Plan Review Update - Project Management Plan 4. Kerbside reform Community Engagement Workshop 5. Capital Works Program Review - August 2022		
Councillor Attendees:		Cr S Carpenter (V), Cr D Gallagher (V), Cr K Haslam (V), Cr J Walsh (V)		
Council Officer Attendees:		L Bonazzi (V), V Albicini (V), K Siebert (V), T Carter (V), C Nickels-Beattie (V), M Thomas (V), P Bain (V), L Kelly (V), J Russell (V), J Carns (V)		
Conflict of Interest Disclosures: Yes				
Matter No.	Councillor making disclosure	Was a vote taken?	Did the Councillor leave the room?	When? Before or after discussion?
2	Cr D Gallagher	No	Yes	Before
2	Cr J Walsh	No	Yes	Before

Meeting Name/Type		Council Pre-Meet		
Meeting Date:		28 September 2022		
Matters Discussed:		1. Planning Application – 1565 Whanregarwen Road, Molesworth – Creation of Section Access 2. Planning Application – 43 Snodgrass Street, Yea – Two (2) Lot Subdivision 3. Contract 21/38 – Mt Kitchener Ave Falls Road Marysville Drainage and Footpath 4. Climate Change Policy 5. Grants and Contributions Program – September Allocations 6. Proposed Road Discontinuance – Part of Hull Road, Marysville 7. Rural Councils Transformation Project – MOU 8. Approval of Annual Financial Statements 2021/22 9. AGL Agreement – in lieu of Rates 10. Delegations of Authorisations (Planning and Environment Act 1987) 11. Endorsement of the Audit and Risk Committee Chair 12. Audit and Risk Committee Biannual Report 13. Audit and Risk Committee Confirmation of Minutes		
Councillor Attendees:		Cr S Carpenter (V), Cr D Gallagher (V), Cr S McAulay (V), Cr K Haslam (V), Cr J Walsh (V), I Gerencser (V)		
Council Officer Attendees:		L Bonazzi (V), M Chesworth (V), V Albicini (V), K Siebert (V), T Carter (V), C Nickels-Beattie (V), N Stewart (V), C Fraser (V), N Maguire (V)		
Conflict of Interest Disclosures: Yes				
Matter No.	Councillor making disclosure	Was a vote taken?	Did the Councillor leave the room?	When? Before or after discussion?
5	Cr D Gallagher	No	Yes	Before
5	Cr J Walsh	No	Yes	Before

Meeting Name/Type	Briefing Session
Meeting Date:	5 October 2022
Matters Discussed:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. External flood briefing from Goulburn Murray Water &amp; SES</li> <li>2. Emergency Planning &amp; flood asset impacts</li> <li>3. Tanglewood Music Festival update</li> </ol>
Councillor Attendees:	Cr S Carpenter, Cr D Gallagher, Cr S McAulay, Cr K Haslam, Cr J Walsh, Cr I Gerencser
Council Officer Attendees:	L Bonazzi, M Chesworth, V Albicini, K Siebert, C Price, S Russell, M Thomas, P Bain, N Stewart
Conflict of Interest Disclosures: Nil	

Meeting Name/Type	Briefing Session
Meeting Date:	12 October 2022
Matters Discussed:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. MAV State Council Meeting Resolution</li> <li>2. Procurement Policy - Local Government Act 2020</li> <li>3. Strategic Council Planning for 2023/24 - Introduction</li> <li>4. Highlands Hall Section of Ghin Ghin and Highlands Road Speed Review</li> <li>5. Development Services – Planning Report September 2022</li> <li>6. Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 21/22 review</li> </ol>
Councillor Attendees:	Cr S Carpenter, Cr D Gallagher, Cr S McAulay, Cr K Haslam, Cr J Walsh
Council Officer Attendees:	L Bonazzi, M Chesworth, V Albicini, K Siebert, T Carter, P Bain (V), S Coller, N Carter (V), L Kelly, N Stewart
Conflict of Interest Disclosures: Nil	

Meeting Name/Type	Briefing Session
Meeting Date:	19 October 2022
Matters Discussed:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Annual Report feedback</li> <li>2. Forestry Transition – Local Government Strategy Project update</li> <li>3. Grants and Contributions Policy Review</li> <li>4. Grants and Contributions Program – October Allocations</li> <li>5. Tourism and Events Department – Options paper</li> <li>6. Emission Mitigation Study Proposal – Flat Lead Road, Yea</li> <li>7. Capital Works Program Review - September 2022</li> </ol>
Councillor Attendees:	Cr S Carpenter (V), Cr D Gallagher (V), Cr S McAulay (V), Cr K Haslam (V), Cr J Walsh (V), Cr I Gerencser (V)
Council Officer Attendees:	L Bonazzi (V), M Chesworth (V), V Albicini (V), K Siebert (V), D Echeverry (V), M Thomas (V), P Bain (V), L Harrison (V), J Carns (V)

Conflict of Interest Disclosures: Yes				
Matter No.	Councillor making disclosure	Was a vote taken?	Did the Councillor leave the room?	When? Before or after discussion?
4	Cr S Carpenter	No	Yes	Before

## **RESOLUTION**

**Cr I Gerencser / Cr J Walsh**  
**That Council receive and note the records of Council Briefing Sessions for 19 September 2022 to 21 October 2022.**

**CARRIED**

## 9 SEALING REGISTER

File Reference	Date Seal Affixed	Description of Documents	Signatures of Persons Sealing
SF/4210	26 September 2022	Formal Instrument of Agreement between Murrindindi Shire Council and AWS Services Pty Ltd for Panel Contract Builders	Livia Bonazzi Cr S Carpenter
SF/233	7 October 2022	An Agreement between Murrindindi Shire Council and AGL HP1 Pty Ltd, AGL HP2 Pty Ltd and AGL HP3 Pty Ltd as partners in the AGL Hydro Partnership	Livia Bonazzi Cr S Carpenter
SF/123	7 October 2022	S6 - Instrument of Delegation - Council to Members of Council Staff (August 2022)	Livia Bonazzi Cr S Carpenter
SF/123	12 October 2022	S11A - Instrument of Appointment & Authorisation (Planning and Environment Act 1987) (August 2022)	Livia Bonazzi Cr S Carpenter

### **RESOLUTION**

**Cr D Gallagher / Cr E Lording**  
**That the list of items to which the Council seal has been affixed be noted.**

**CARRIED**

The meeting was closed at 7:35 pm.

**CONFIRMED THIS**



**CHAIRPERSON Cr S Carpenter**